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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The inventive image processing apparatus takes steps of

1) dividing an image to be processed into numerals of blocks;

2) determining whether a block is a color block or not; 3)

determining whether the image is a color image or not based

on the rate of color blocks to the entire blocks. Thereby,

valid color pixel rate can be obtained at blocks belonging to

a color region even though an image is almost monochrome but

partially colored. Accordingly, the inventive image

processing apparatus can appropriately determine whether the

image is a color image or not.